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Dear Members,

As 2014 draws to an end, SADeaf will like to invite all members to renew their memberships before 1 January 2015, if you have not done so.

The membership renewal form can be downloaded via <http://sadeaf.org.sg/member.htm>.

We hope to have you as our members for many years to come!

editorial team

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Special thanks also to the following:

- Singapore School for the Deaf
- Elizabeth Khoo
- Priscilla Chong



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From the editor's desk

It is the favourite time of the year again! Children are on school holidays, the spirit of Christmas is in the air, and everyone is looking forward to fresh starts in the New Year. 'Tis also the season to spend more time with family, friends and loved ones – the people always with us through life's ups and downs.

In this issue, be enlightened on how much more one can achieve with encouragement and support from those around us. We feature William Tay, who attributes his outstanding academic performance to his parents and teachers who had motivated him through the years. The parents of Kimberly Quek also share how they constantly encourage their daughter who recently won SADeaf's Outstanding Primary Student award.

Also look out for the stories on SADeaf's successful bid to host the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) Meeting in 2016, as well as the guidelines on the new Personal Data Protection Act.

Wishing all of you happy holidays and a wonderful new year ahead!

Seema Dadlani-Ramchand
Editor

编者的寄语

又到了一年中最为期盼的时刻！学生们放假了，空中弥漫着圣诞的气息，大家都期待在来临新的一年重新出发。在这个时候，我们也腾出更多时间来陪伴家人、朋友和那些与我们同行在人生路上所挚爱的人。

在这一集，透过一篇篇叙述如何在周围人的鼓励和支持下取得优异表现的感人故事，让我们从中得到启发。其中包括了William Tay，一位在父母和老师多年循循善诱之下取得优异学业成绩的受访者。还有在近期获得新加坡聋人协会所颁发杰出小学生奖的Kimberly Quek，她的父母也将分享在鼓励女儿方面的心得。

其他的报道包括了新加坡聋人协会成功获得2016年世界聋人联合会会议的主办权，以及最新《个人资料保护法令》的指导原则。

祝愿大家有个愉悦的假期和崭新美好的一年！

Seema Dadlani-Ramchand



have your say

For feedback, comments and suggestions on Signal Newsletter, you can email to corporate@sadeaf.org.sg or mail to The Singapore Association for the Deaf, 227 Mountbatten Road, Singapore 397998

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Determined to Succeed

Sirinapha Rungarunchoitchuang, Volunteer Journalist



William (extreme right) during a community service project in Batam with schoolmates from Balestier Hill Secondary

William Tay, 22, is a Singapore Polytechnic student pursuing a Diploma in Infocomm Security Management. A recipient of several awards including the Howe Yon Chong PSA scholarship, William was even mentioned in Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's National Day Rally 2014 speech as one of the "great examples of resolve, strength and character."

Signal gets the inside story of how William overcame adversity and setbacks to achieve all these.

William was four years old when he lost his hearing because of a high fever. After he was diagnosed with hearing loss, he was enrolled at the Singapore School for the Deaf (SSD). "I had a culture shock seeing the teachers and students signing to each other," William recalls. It was a sharp contrast to the hearing world he was accustomed to.

"I was very playful at SSD and I was always last in class. When I was in Primary 5, my father was worried about my bad results and decided to get a private deaf tutor for me." William eventually did well enough in the PSLE and went on to Balestier Hill Secondary School, a designated school for students with hearing loss. "I was fortunate to have a deaf resource teacher there, Mr Lim Chin Heng, who conducted counseling and storytelling about deaf life," William explains. This was what helped him realise the importance of a good education.

William went on to achieve four As in the GCE 'N' Level examinations and furthered his studies at ITE College Central where he met his class advisor, Ms Bu Juan, whom he spoke fondly of. "She requested every lecturer to either write on the whiteboard or speak clearly and slightly slower so that I could understand the lessons." Her constant reassurance has been his source of motivation since then.

William is thankful to have found strength from people around him such as his parents and teachers. "I decided not to let my physical limitation deter me or wallow in self-pity. Instead, I worked doubly hard to get good results." Through determination and hard work, William achieved a perfect GPA of 4.0 and also racked up an impressive list of awards, including the Outstanding Student Award, Certificate of Merit, ITE-CCC scholarship, National Youth Achievement Gold Award, Microsoft Youthspark Scholarship and ITE Alumni Technology award.

Inspired by his uncle who lives in Los Angeles, William developed an interest in computers which spurred him to take up his current diploma course. He shared his aspiration to be a ‘white’ hacker – a term which refers to an ethical hacker or a computer security expert. He intends to further his education at a university.

William’s hobbies include macro photography and he also used to be a member of the Deaf dragon boat team. The sport did not only

allow him to build camaraderie with his fellow team mates but taught him about teamwork. He reflects, “I always tell myself that if I want to have a good future, I must find a way to overcome my difficulties. It is not always easy, but in my heart, I believe I can breach all hurdles that stand in my way.”

William’s positive outlook certainly has a lot to do with his success thus far. Looking at William, if one is determined to succeed, one will!



William (middle row, third from left) with the Deaf dragon boat team

With Family Support, Anything is Achievable

Seema Dadlani-Ramchand, Volunteer Journalist



Kimberly and her family with guest of honour, Ms Denise Phua, Mayor of Central Singapore CDC, at Singapore Sign Language Week 2014

Kimberly Quek, 14, was diagnosed with hearing loss when she was just one year old. Despite her challenges, she has excelled in her studies and recently won SDeaf's Outstanding Deaf Student (Primary Education) Award. Signal catches up with the Quek family for a chat to learn more about Kimberly's experience and the factors behind her success.

Kimberly's father, Mr Jonathan Quek, a financial services director with AIA says, "We did a hearing test when we realised she was not responding to sounds. She wore a hearing aid for six months after that, but it did not help, so we opted for a cochlear implant on her right ear."

"Our world came crashing down when we found out about her hearing loss," recalls Mrs Quek, a secondary school teacher. "Kimberly was only about two years old when she did the operation. No one

in our family had any hearing disabilities before, so we did not know how to handle the situation. Thankfully, with the support from everyone around us, we managed to cope."



Mrs Quek sharing Kimberly's joy in winning SDeaf's Outstanding Deaf Student (Primary Education) Award

After much perseverance, Kimberly's speech eventually started to develop at age five. She has come a long way since then and is now doing well in the mainstream. Mrs Quek says, "She had her frustrations initially, but we taught her strategies to communicate better, such as talking slower and writing down what she wanted to say," says Mrs Quek.

Kimberly's positive attitude, backed by hard work and determination, has enabled her to always be in the top classes at St Margaret's Primary School, and she graduated with the highest PSLE score in her cohort. Like many teens, she loves reading, roller-blading and swimming. She is also an avid bowler. "I started exposing her to bowling when she was around six years old. I thought I bowled reasonably well, but now she has definitely surpassed me," shares Mr Quek with a laugh.

Kimberly's bowling prowess is the main reason she enrolled at the Singapore Sports School this year. To maximise her training and study time, Kimberly stays at the school's boarding house. Her family keeps in touch regularly through a family group chat app. At school, Kimberly depends on lip reading and the FM system whereby the teacher uses a microphone to transmit speech directly to her cochlear implant.

Mrs Quek says, "We spend a lot of time with Kimberly. She also has caring teachers and has received good support from the hospital and therapists. All these have helped her progress this far." She is happy that Kimberly has started fostering close friendships with her classmates.

"Affirmation is also very important," adds Mr Quek. "When she does well, we recognise her for her hard work. For example, her mother will reward her by taking her to eat sushi, her favourite food."

On her advice for parents with a child who is deaf or hard of hearing, Mrs Quek says, "It is important to help your child build up a confident and positive attitude, and to teach them to overcome obstacles. If speech is not the best way, then we need to leverage on other ways. Every small step taken adds to the child's confidence level and makes a difference."

Emergency SMS Services

Community Services Dept

sms70999  **sms70995**

Emergency SMS Helpline Services

The Emergency SMS Helpline Service is a emergency SMS service that offers persons with hearing loss and/or speech difficulties* another avenue for communication with the Singapore Police Force (70999) and the Singapore Civil Defence Force (70995).

Civil Defence sms70995

1. Which service is required (ambulance or fire engine)
2. Address/ incident location (be descriptive, include prominent landmarks)
3. Nature of emergency (fire or someone trapped/ have difficulty in breathing)

Examples

Residential	Non-Residential
<p></p> <p>Fire Engine. Blk 889 Tampines St 81 <# unit no.> or S520889 <# unit no.>. My neighbour's room is on fire.</p>	<p></p> <p>Fire Engine. Smoke from rubbish chute at Blk 889 Tampines St 81.</p>
<p></p> <p>Ambulance. Blk 889 Tampines St 81 <# unit no.> or S520889 <# unit no.>. My mother has fainted.</p>	<p></p> <p>Ambulance. I'm at Pasir Ris Park, in front of Mcdonald's. I'm wearing a red shirt and black shorts. Feeling giddy.</p>

Police sms70999

1. Description of incident
2. Incident location
3. Any other information to help the police

Example: 

I was robbed of my wallet at Toa Payoh Lorong 4, outside the Blk 14 Coffee Shop. The robber was wearing a black jacket, denim pants and a pair of sunglasses. Please help me.

How to register for the SMS 70999 / 70995 Emergency SMS Helpline Services?

1. Visit SAdeaf's Community Services (CS) department during office hours:
Monday to Tuesday/Thursday to Friday: 8:30am to 5:30pm Wednesday: 8:30am to 10pm or
2. Download the registration form from <http://goo.gl/A7t040>. You can email the completed form to cs_swa@sadeaf.org.sg or mail it to us at 227 Mountbatten Road, Singapore 397998.

Note: If you had registered for this service before, and have since changed your phone number, please register with us again.

Keng Ying's Journal: Celebrating Holidays as a Student in 1990s America

Tan Keng Ying, Volunteer Journalist



Keng Ying at Gallaudet University, Washington D.C, USA

Last July I attended the 150th anniversary celebrations of my alma mater, Gallaudet University, where I had a reunion with old friends. It made me relive memories of my days as a Gallaudet student in the early 1990s. During my 12-year stay in the States, I had many chances to experience American culture and places.

Overall, my experience was a wonderful one, though it was sometimes stressful. Looking back, I felt nostalgic as I recall how I celebrated the various holidays throughout the year in America. The festive periods were especially memorable because I was alone in a foreign country and I had to find ways to occupy my time meaningfully. So I used the holidays to spend time with friends and explore new places with them.



Keng Ying with fellow Gallaudet University students from Singapore at the home of former SSD teacher, Ms Poh Pin

On Thanksgiving Day, I stayed in my dorm while most of the American students went home to celebrate with their families. Since the campus cafeteria was closed, I ventured out with a few

friends to the Amish historical place in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, for meals. I was also invited to my friend's home for a Thanksgiving dinner with her family, and I enjoyed being part of the celebration.

During the week of Christmas, while most international students returned back to their respective countries, I chose to explore the nearby states instead. I went to my friend's hometown in South Carolina for a month. I also visited my niece who was studying in California and had a wonderful Christmas dinner with her boyfriend's family.

On Independence Day, I joined my American friends for a fun BBQ outdoors, where we also managed to watch the fireworks.

However, I definitely did not forget my family and friends in Singapore. I kept in touch with them regularly through fax and hand-written letters. It was during the days before usage of the internet was common. Today we are fortunate to have email, online video chats and smartphone apps which have made keeping in touch so much easier.

With fond memories,
Tan Keng Ying

Singapore Sign Language Week 2014

Rozlin Othman, Corporate Affairs Manager



Ms Denise Phua (third from right) among the audience

For the first time, SDeaf commemorated the International Week of the Deaf (IWD). The Singapore Sign Language (SgSL) Week event, in conjunction with IWD, was held from 22 September to 28 September at East Court, VivoCity. SgSL Week aims to raise awareness of as well as promote Deaf culture and Singapore Sign Language.

The hundreds of visitors to the week-long exhibition enjoyed talks by guest speakers on Deaf issues, performances by Deaf performing groups and free SgSL lessons.



Deaf performing arts group, Definitely Real Funky



Song signing group, Signifique, performing for the audience



Learning Sign Language

SADeaf Awards 2013

Every year, SADeaf recognises the achievements of outstanding deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals, dedicated teachers, as well as individuals and organisations who have made a significant contribution to the Deaf community.

The awards were presented on 28 September, during the closing ceremony of Singapore Sign Language Week.

The programme is sponsored by Siemens Medical Instruments Pte Ltd, Ambassador for the Deaf since 2004.

I Love You Award – Diamond

- Nanyang Technological University, Welfare Services Club, Regular Service Project for the Hearing Impaired (RSP-HI)
- Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd

I Love You Award – Ruby

- RRJ Management (S) Pte Ltd
- The Shaw Foundation Pte

I Love You Award - Sapphire

- Bengawan Solo Pte Ltd
- BP Singapore Pte Ltd
- City Developments Limited
- Country City Investment Pte Ltd
- Dyna-mac Holdings Ltd
- Estate of Henry Bolter Deceased
- Golden Travel Services Pte Ltd

- Hi-P International Limited
- Ms Ho Ching
- Mr Jung Young Soo
- Kentucky Fried Chicken Management Pte Ltd
- Keppel Care Foundation
- Lee Foundation
- Mellford Pte Ltd
- Mr Shen Feiyu
- SymASia Singapore Fund
- Tan Ean Kiam Foundation
- Mr Tan Koon
- The American Chamber of Commerce in Singapore
- Vobis Enterprise Pte Ltd

Outstanding Deaf Student (Primary Education)

Ms Quek Hwee, Kimberly from St. Margaret's Primary School

Outstanding Deaf Student (Post-secondary and Tertiary Education):

Mr Wong Chee Foong, Winston from the National University of Singapore

Outstanding Deaf Sportsman

Mr Peter Im Wai Hoe

Teacher of the Year

Ms Chew Chong On Theresa from Boon Lay Secondary School

Celebrating Children's Day with Damai!

Barbara D'Cotta, Vice Principal of SSD



Damai students welcoming their SSD buddies

Every Children's Day for the past three years, Damai Primary School has been a gracious host to the students of the Singapore School for the Deaf (SSD). This gives SSD students the valuable opportunity to integrate with hearing peers and experience what life is like in a mainstream school.

Children's Day fell on Thursday, 2 October this year. Upon arriving at Damai, the SSD students were greeted by their buddies who met them with pen and paper so that they could communicate. These students also learnt some basic signs from Mrs Helen Yeo, a part time teacher at SSD and an adjunct teacher at Damai.

Kicking off the programme for the day was a game of

handball. Through play, the students were able to get to know one another better. This was followed by a sumptuous breakfast. Next up



Jumping rope is great fun!

was a rope skipping activity during which the students picked up competitive rope skipping techniques. They enjoyed it so much that SSD is considering including it as one of the Core Curricula Activities (CCA) next year!

Last but not least, the students were treated to a concert in which Damai Primary School teachers got to show off their singing and dancing talents. Cue much fun and laughter as the students got to see the teachers performing for a change!

Afiq, a primary 6 SSD student, said that he enjoyed the rope skipping activity as he learnt new skipping styles. Primary 5 student Si Tian said she enjoyed watching the teachers' performance. Indeed, all the students had a wonderful day and were looking forward to a reunion with Damai again next year.

Charity Walk for the Deaf 2014

Rozlin Othman, Corporate Affairs Manager



Dr Vivian trying his hand at the game stall

CHARITY WALK
For the Deaf 2014

Charity Walk for the Deaf 2014 took place on a cool morning on Saturday, 4 October 2014. Clients, members and corporate supporters, together with guest-of-honour Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, walked the scenic 3.8-km route from SAdeaf to the waterfront at the Sports Hub and back again. A mini funfair and performances at the hall were the other highlights of the event.

SAdeaf would like to thank all individual and corporate participants, sponsors, donors, clients, Ambassadors for the Deaf and staff for their support.



Charity Walk – Registration



Charity Walk – Flagging off

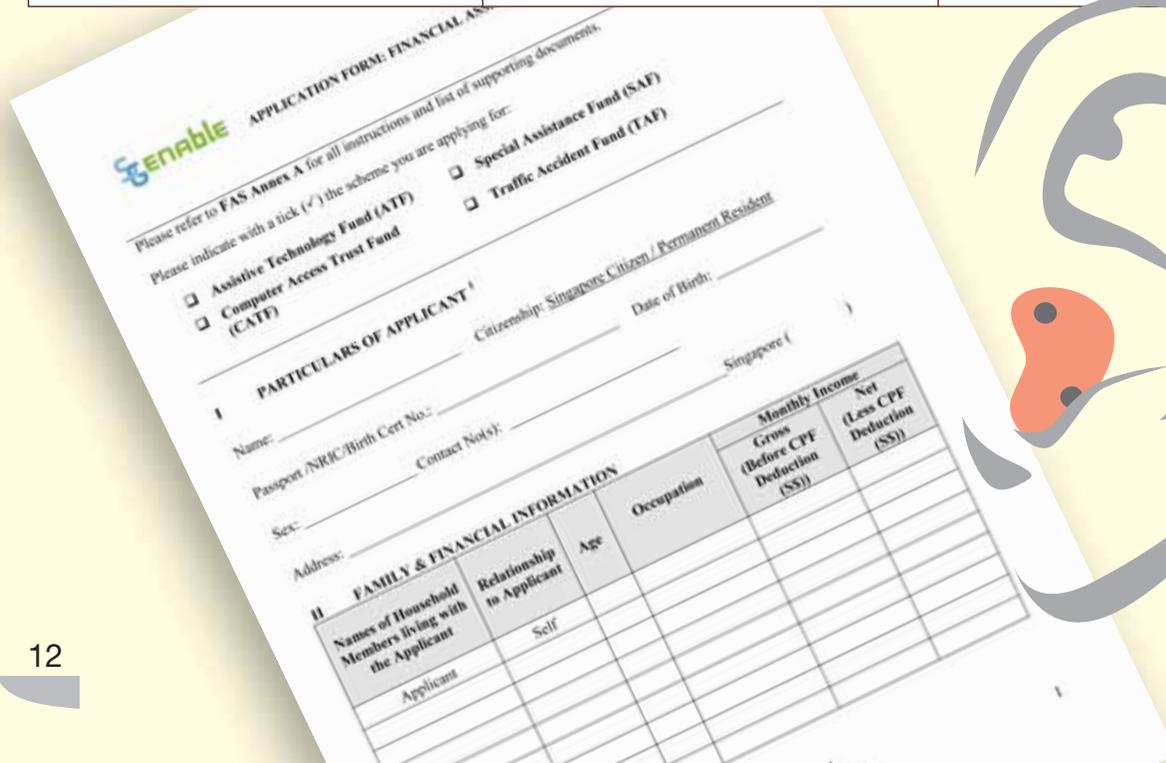


Participants walking

Need Help? Make Use of These Assistance Schemes!

Do you know there are various assistance schemes which you can apply for? Our Community Services staff will be glad to help you do so. Find out more below!

Scheme	Eligibility	How to apply or get more info
<p>SG Enable Assistive Technology Fund</p> <p>The Assistive Technology Fund (ATF) provides individuals with a subsidy of up to 90% of the cost of assistive technology devices or \$20,000 over the individual's lifetime, whichever is lower.</p> <p>The subsidy amount is determined according to the applicant's gross household income.</p> <p>The Fund can be used to acquire, replace, upgrade or repair assistive technology devices for educational use or use in the workplace. These devices include Braille typewriters, magic wand keyboards and speech synthesizers.</p> <p>(Source: SG Enable , 2014)</p>	<p>The subsidy is applicable based on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The applicant must be a Singapore Citizen or Permanent Resident* - The applicant comes from a family with a per capita gross monthly household income of \$1,500 and below - The applicant** should be <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A child in pre-school; or ✓ A student in special education or mainstream school; or ✓ An individual in open employment; or ✓ A person in National Service <p>* Applicants who are Singapore Permanent Residents should have at least one immediate family member who is a Singapore citizen.</p> <p>** Students or adults with disabilities in other educational institutions who have a good chance of entering mainstream schools or getting employed will be considered on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>(Source: SG Enable, 2014)</p>	<p>Eligible applicants may approach SADeaf's Community Services dept during office hours: Monday to Tuesday / Thursday to Friday: 8.30am to 5.30pm and Wednesday: 8.30am to 10pm (via appointment only)</p> <p><i>The Fund does not support the purchase of assistive technology devices for daily living, or devices which are not directly related to studying or use in the workplace.</i></p> <p>Website: www.sgenable.sg</p> 





Scheme	Eligibility	How to apply or get more info
<p>SG Enable Special Assistance Fund</p> <p>The Special Assistance Fund (SAF) provides financial assistance to persons with disabilities who have low or no income, to purchase assistive equipment, technical aids or home retrofits.</p> <p>It is a one-off funding per applicant.</p> <p>It provides individuals with a means-tested subsidy of up to 100% of the cost of the required equipment or up to \$10,000, whichever is lower.</p> <p>The amount of subsidy to be approved would be based on the applicant's nett household income.</p> <p>(Source: SG Enable, 2014)</p>	<p>The applicant should meet the following criteria :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A Singapore Citizen or Permanent Resident ✓ From a family with per capita nett monthly household income of up to \$1,500 ✓ All required equipment have to be recommended by a therapist or doctor ✓ The application has to be supported by a case manager/social worker <p>The items or retrofits to be subsidised should have the purpose of improving mobility, increasing independence or helping in rehabilitation.</p> <p>(Source: SG Enable, 2014)</p>	<p>Eligible applicants may approach SADeaf's Community Services dept during office hours: Monday to Tuesday / Thursday to-Friday: 8.30am to 5.30pm and Wednesday: 8.30am to 10pm (via appointment only)</p> <p>The SAF would not cover cases that are eligible for funding under any of the following funds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistive Technology Fund • Seniors' Mobility and Enabling Fund and any other fund administered by NCSS, SG Enable or Agency for Integrated Care for the same purpose <p>Website: www.sgenable.sg</p> 
<p>AIC Seniors' Mobility and Enabling Fund (Assistive Devices – Hearing Aids)</p> <p>Seniors' Mobility and Enabling Fund (SMF) provides holistic and comprehensive support for seniors to remain mobile and to live independently in the community.</p>  <p>(Source: AIC, 2014)</p>	<p>The senior must be/have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Aged 60 years and above ✓ A Singapore Citizen ✓ Assessed or has been assessed by a qualified assessor (e.g. therapist, registered nurse, doctor or audiologist) to determine the need and type of device ✓ Not made any previous claim for a similar mobility device ✓ Live in a 3-room HDB flat with a household monthly income per person of \$1,800 and below, to qualify for devices costing less than \$500 ✓ A household monthly income per person of \$1,800 and below, to qualify for all other devices <p>(Source: AIC, 2014)</p>	<p>Eligible applicants can contact SADeaf to make an appointment with the case manager/social worker.</p> <p>You will be required to submit supporting documents for your application to be processed.</p> <p>Charges will be imposed for assessment done by SADeaf qualified assessors.</p> <p>Up to 90% subsidy of actual cost of the device. The maximum subsidy will depend on the cost of the type of device needed.</p> <p>Co-payment will be advised by AIC.</p> <p>You can contact AIC at 1800-650-6060 or email: enquiries@aic.sg.</p> <p>Website: www.aic.org.sg</p> 

For queries, you can SMS or call our Social Work Assistant, Ang Xue Er, at 9226 7621 (mobile), 6344 8274 (office) or email cs_swa@sadeaf.org.sg.

Personal Data Protection Act

Community Services

What You Need To Know about PDPA

From 2 July 2014 onwards, the data protection obligations under the Personal Data Protection Act 2012 (PDPA) came into effect.

What is Personal Data?

Any data that is about you may be considered personal data, including:

- Full name
- NRIC or passport number
- Photograph or video image of an individual
- Mobile telephone number
- Personal email address
- Thumbprint
- Name and residential address

Can SADeaf use my personal data? For what purpose does SADeaf use my personal data?

Yes, SADeaf can use your personal data in the course of official work such as conducting financial assessments, taking part in surveys with government and official agencies such as MSF, SG Enable etc.

We may also use your contact information (such as postal address, mobile number, email address) to send you official SADeaf publicity materials, messages and notices.

You have the right to request not to receive such materials – please email cs_swa@sadeaf.org.sg to inform us if so. (But note, in this case, you may no longer receive announcements and news in a timely manner from SADeaf.)

SADeaf will not release personal data of clients and members to external parties for commercial use or for any other purposes without first getting your permission.



Can SADeaf publish photos or videos taken of me during its events?

For events and activities organised by SADeaf, we may have staff/volunteers at the scene to take photos and videos of the participants and happenings. In such cases, we will put up a notice to say that we will be taking photos/videos which might be published in Signal, SADeaf website or Facebook page.

If you do not wish to be photographed or videoed, please inform us during the event.

More questions?

To find out more about PDPA :

- visit www.pdpc.gov.sg or
- email Wong Ai Ling (Principal Case Manager) at ailing@sadeaf.org.sg.



National Day Rally 2014 – with “live” interpreting!

Alvan Yap, Deputy Director



NDR – The staff behind the event

James on stage and terp Amirah at the studio

For the third year running, “live” sign language interpretation was provided for the prime minister’s annual National Day Rally 2014 speech via webcast. On Sunday, 17 August 2014, SADeaf organised a gathering for 80 Deaf clients and members to watch the webcast on a big screen in the hall.

Although the rally started at 7pm, participants came as early as 6pm to have their dinner and grab the best seats. Staff interpreters Amirah Osman, Zach Tay and Hanna Omar interpreted “live” from the MediaCorp studio. At the SADeaf hall, our Deaf staff interpreters Jessica Mak and James Ong were on stage to help interpret as well.

Compared to the previous years, this time around, the webcast format and broadcast saw much

improvement – the inset box for the interpreter took up one-third of the screen, enabling the Deaf to have a clear view of the signing; the video streaming was smoother too.

The event ended at 9pm with much praise from the audience who were able to understand the speech in full. They also hoped to watch next year’s rally on TV with both live signing and subtitles.

Kudos, too, to the SADeaf staff, led by Elizabeth Khoo, for organising the event. SADeaf would also like to take the chance to thank MediaCorp, Ministry for Social and Family Development, and the Prime Minister’s Office for taking our feedback into consideration and making this year’s rally a meaningful one for the Deaf community!

Free Hearing Aid set for Members and Clients

(Only for Mild to Moderate Hearing Loss)

ABC Tissue Hearing Express

DONATED BY MR. & MRS. HENRY NGAI

Behind -The-Ear Rechargeable Dual Hearing Aids

To learn more about the free hearing aid, please contact Audiology Manager, Mr Lai Siu Fai at 63448274 ext 19 or email siufai@sadeaf.org.sg.

World Cup Fever at SSD!

Dennis Tan, SSD Teacher



Our very own World Cup teams!

This year the theme for SSD's annual Games Day, held on Friday 15 August, was "World Cup Fever"! Once again, students from Lighthouse School (LHS) were invited. Also there to join in the fun were staff from the Ministry of Education and parents of SSD and LHS students.



Through the tunnel...

This train is sure moving fast!

Together we can do it!

In line with the theme, the students were sorted into three teams - Germany, Argentina and Holland. All the students could be seen eagerly trying their best to outdo one another in various games. However, half-way through the heated competition, there was a sudden downpour. But it definitely did not dampen the spirits of the students or audience. Everyone helped to pack up the equipment and moved to the hall where the games resumed.

Most of the games involved the students from the two schools, but guests, parents and former teachers also got to join in the fun towards the end.

Unlike at the actual World Cup (which Germany won), the team at the SSD Games Day which carried off the championship trophy this time round was Argentina!



Yeah Argentina!!

A Truly Educational Show!

Janis Wong, SSD Teacher



SSD students with Education Minister, Mr Heng Swee Keat

Fancy watching the National Day Parade nearly a month earlier than the rest of Singapore? This was exactly what six Primary 5 students from the Singapore School for the Deaf (SSD) had the privilege of experiencing on 19 July 2014. Together with thousands of their peers from other schools, they had been invited to the National Education (NE) Show held at the Marina Bay Floating Platform.

After collecting their goodie bags, the excited SSD students went straight to find their seats. By chance, they had the honour to meet the Education Minister, Mr Heng Swee Keat, up close and later took part in the famous Kallang Wave among other crowd-warming activities by the four energetic hosts.



I'll make this a lifetime memory for sure

As in the actual National Day Parade held on 9 August, the NE show featured many spectacular performances, among them the 21-gun salute. Another highlight was the largest non-uniform group contingent marching ever in a NDP, and which

included students from MINDS as well as its taiko drumming group.



SSD students among the sea of spectators



The finale!

The SSD students were enthralled at the dynamic display and march-past by Singapore's uniformed groups as well as the various exhilarating performances. As the event drew to a close, fireworks lit up the night sky, leaving the viewers mesmerised by the beauty of the lights and colours. Everyone headed home that night feeling a little more patriotic.

Outings Galore for SSD Students

John Chan, SSD Teacher



SSD students were awed by the magnificent view from Sands SkyPark

The Singapore School for the Deaf (SSD) often receives offers of outings and gifts from generous donors and supporters, among them our SADeaf Ambassadors for the Deaf. In fact, two of our Ambassadors, Marina Bay Sands (MBS) and Siemens, recently brought our students out for some fun. SSD wishes to thank MBS and Siemens for their kindness and generosity.

On 1 August, MBS gave the students the rare opportunity to tour the Marina Bay Sands building and its Sands SkyPark. Many of the students were awed by the architecture of the 200-meter high Sands SkyPark. From that lofty height, the students could see the magnificent views below and went about eagerly taking photos with their iPads. They also saw the much talked-about infinity pool.



I will manage your weight and roll you no matter what!



What a style!

The outing organised by Siemens, on 29 August, was at Kallang Bowling Alley. Joined by Siemens staff, the students had an enjoyable time bowling. Although most of them had little or no experience throwing a ball of considerable weight, they soon picked up the basic techniques and gamely tried their hand at it. Although tired out at the end of the day, all agreed that they had great fun!

“Deaf-Hearing Together, We Can Achieve More!”

Alvan Yap, Deputy Director



The Singapore delegation with WFD President Colin Allen (fourth from right)



Out & About in Macau!

From 24 to 28 August 2014, the Macau Deaf Association played gracious host to the 26th World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) Regional Secretariat in Asia (RSA) Representatives Meeting.

SADeaf's delegation to the Meeting comprised a diverse mix - besides vice president Alfred Yeo, staff Alvan Yap and Jessica Mak, the team also included youth delegates Yew Hau En and Nurul Nurmairah, as well as volunteer interpreter Nix Sang. SADeaf executive council member, Tan Keng Ying, joined us as an observer.

The delegates' meetings spanned two days and the agenda included a wide range of Deaf-related topics. The highlight of the event was SADeaf's successful bid for the right to host the 2016 WFD RSA Meeting. We had the unanimous support of all nine other fellow WFD RSA countries present!

Deaf associations from member countries also presented reports on the issues, progress and challenges faced by their communities over the past year. Of special interest was how they had made use of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to strengthen their cases

when lobbying the respective governments for legislation and funding for services.

Various prominent Deaf personalities also gave talks and presentations at the event. Among them were WFD President Colin Allen who made a presentation on WFD's theme of "Strengthening Human Diversity", Father Cyril Axelrod (on deafblindness), Ms Debra Russell (on how sign language interpreters can be Deaf allies), Mr Kang Chen (on his personal journey in Deaf sports), as well as updates by the Sign Linguistics Research programme from the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

The SADeaf's delegation was extremely honoured to have the opportunity to chat with Father Axelrod during the farewell dinner session.

The Meeting also gave us the chance to network, share information and exchange ideas in person with fellow delegates from Asian countries such as Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Mongolia and the Philippines. The Singapore delegation also made a trip to Hong Kong to visit the Hong Kong Association of the Deaf and had dinner with members of the local Deaf community. It was quite a cultural experience indeed!

Staff Bonding via Hari Raya Home Visits

SADeaf staff embarked on an exciting tour around Singapore on 10 August 2014. Their mission was to visit the homes of Muslim staff Hanna Omar, Fandi Adam, Nadzirah Taib and Amirah Osman, for Hari Raya celebrations. It was indeed a memorable experience for everyone!

**MANY THANKS TO
HANNA, FANDI, NADZIRAH & AMIRAH**



**RAYA RENDEZVOUS
ON 10 AUGUST 2014**



Photos courtesy of Alan Wong